

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method for mode switching of a multi-mode multi-band mobile communication terminal between an asynchronous mode and a synchronous mode, the mobile communication terminal including an asynchronous modem for communication with an asynchronous mobile communication network and a synchronous modem for communication with a synchronous mobile communication network, the method comprising the steps of: (1) switching a current mode of the mobile communication terminal into an asynchronous mode and searching for an asynchronous signal, when the mobile communication terminal receives a system message from the synchronous mobile communication network while being located within an overlap area between the asynchronous mobile communication network and the synchronous mobile communication network, the system message indicating mode switching from the synchronous mobile communication network to the asynchronous mobile communication network; (2) determining if an asynchronous signal is detected and if registration of location has been performed; and (3) when no asynchronous signal is detected or when the registration of location has not been performed yet, switching a current mode of the mobile communication terminal into a synchronous mode, waiting during a counting interval and counting a number of times for the searching, and then feeding back to step (1), wherein in step (3), the counting interval increases as the number of times for the searching increases, the mobile communication receives a system parameter from the asynchronous mobile communication network for searching the asynchronous signal and the counting interval is determined based on the system parameter, and the system parameter contains information of a unit interval T for searching the asynchronous signal, a modulus A for determining the time interval of asynchronous signal searching, and a maximum threshold N_{max} for the number of times for searching the asynchronous signal, and the counting interval is determined by an equation, $t=A.\sup.n*T$, where n denotes a

number of times by which the mobile communication terminal has performed searching for the asynchronous signal and n has a value increasing by one each time from 1 to ' N_{max} '.

25. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein step (1) comprises the steps of: checking a current communication mode by the mobile communication terminal; and searching for the asynchronous signal by the mobile communication terminal when the current communication mode is one of a preferred asynchronous mode and a preferred synchronous mode.

26-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein, when the number of times of searching the asynchronous signal exceeds the threshold value ' N_{max} ' the counting interval is fixed to a value $A \cdot \sup N_{max} \cdot T$ regardless of the number of times of searching thereafter.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 24, wherein, the system parameter is one of a system parameter received by the mobile communication terminal from the asynchronous mobile communication network and a system parameter set and stored in advance in the mobile communication terminal.

31-35. (Cancelled)